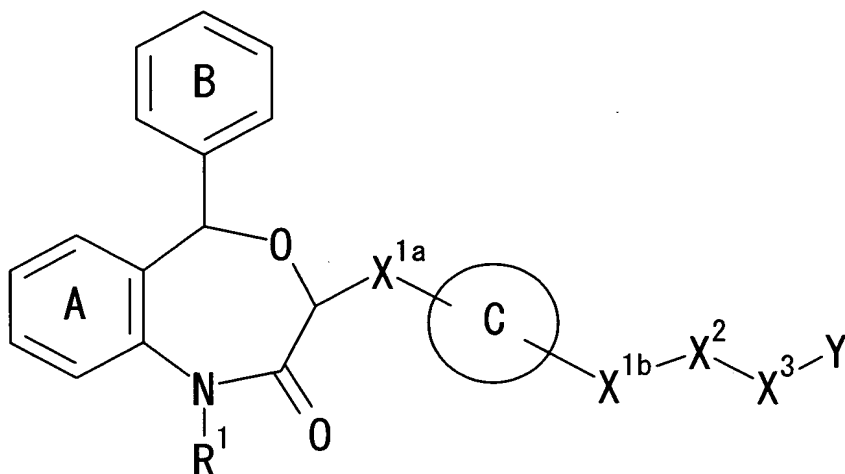


## ABSTRACT

A compound represented by the formula [1]:



5 wherein ring A and ring B each represent an optionally substituted benzene ring; ring C represents an optionally further substituted aromatic ring; R<sup>1</sup> represents a lower alkyl group optionally substituted with an optionally substituted hydroxyl group; X<sup>1a</sup> represents a bond or  
 10 optionally substituted lower alkylene; X<sup>1b</sup> represents a bond or optionally substituted lower alkylene; X<sup>2</sup> represents a bond, -O- or -S-; X<sup>3</sup> represents a bond or an optionally substituted divalent hydrocarbon group; Y represents an optionally esterified or amidated carboxyl  
 15 group, or a salt thereof. The compound of the formula [I] is safer and has more potent lipid lowering activity such as squalene synthase inhibitory activity (cholesterol lowering activity) and triglyceride lowering activity, and

thus it is a compound useful as an agent for preventing or treating hyperlipemia.